

the initial period of westward expansion and economic development of the West, they cannot be sustained under current budgetary constraints to reduce the Federal deficit.

These projects have done their jobs. The West is settled. The projects have produced nearly \$200 billion in income for their beneficiaries. At a time when Congress has told farmers in other parts of the country to give up their heavy diet of Federal subsidies, we cannot leave untouched the water subsidies benefiting their competitors—Federal irrigation farmers in the West.

It is time to say, "Enough is enough." Today I am introducing a bill to eliminate irrigation subsidies on new Reclamation projects. This legislation will have no effect on completed projects, or on projects where irrigators have already executed contracts to repay the Federal investment. But it will require that water users pay the full cost for water from new projects, or new units of existing projects.

The Congress is about to pass legislation that curtails welfare payments after 2 years. I recognize that farmers work hard and provide for the Nation. But with all due respect, after nearly 100 years of multibillion dollar irrigation subsidies, the time for water welfare must come to an end.

When the taxpayers pay to construct a water supply, project beneficiaries should pay back that investment with interest. Doing so will encourage the Congress only to fund those projects that make sound economic and environmental sense, not those that can survive only with massive infusions of Federal taxpayer dollars.

I hope that other members will join me in promoting fairness for farmers and taxpayers, and that my bill will receive an early hearing in the Committee on Resources.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 30, 1996*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago I was pleased to welcome to Washington several constituents from my district. They were representing Tucson Electric Power [TEP]. They came to Washington to receive the Edison Electric Institute's Common Goals Award for Community Responsibility/Special Needs, presented in recognition of TEP's work in helping to establish the southern Arizona anti-DUI task force.

The delegation was led by, TEP Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Charles E. Bayless, who received the award from EEI President Thomas R. Kuhn in a ceremony on Capitol Hill that included more than 200 friends and colleagues. Other members of the TEP delegation who have worked on this project and attended include, George W. Miraben, Senior Vice President, Human Resources and Public Affairs; Jay Gonzales, Manager of Public Affairs; Betsy Bolding, Director, Consumer Affairs; and Sharon Foltz, Director, Community Relations.

In his acceptance of the award, Mr. Bayless spoke about the double tragedy that caused TEP to launch the campaign. Two company linemen were killed while on duty, but in sepa-

rate accidents, by two drunk drivers. As a result of these dual tragedies, TEP, in cooperation with 18 law enforcement jurisdictions, helped organize the southern Arizona anti-DUI task force. Due in part to this program, alcohol-related traffic problems have plunged 60 percent in the Tucson area. This year's high school graduation and prom season was free of DUI incidents for the first time in 20 years.

While we all mourn the loss of the two TEP employees and fellow Tucson citizens, we congratulate TEP and the law enforcement agencies of southern Arizona on making something positive out of the tragedy by taking the initiative against drunk driving. This effort is not only making a difference in Tucson, AZ, it is touching the lives of every one of us. I congratulate TEP on winning the Edison Electric Institute's Common Goals Award and salute them for their community involvement.

#### COMMEND LEO R. McDONOUGH OF THE SMC BUSINESS COUNCIL

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 30, 1996*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend one of my constituents, Mr. Leo McDonough, for his numerous years of dedication to the small business community of Pennsylvania.

As president of the SMC Business Councils, Mr. McDonough has been an effective advocate for the more than 4,800 owners of small businesses in the Commonwealth. More than 123,000 persons rely on those businesses for their employment, which is a remarkable proof that small business is the backbone of the national economy.

Leo McDonough served his Nation in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific during World War II. He pitched for the Pittsburgh Pirates and later worked in the insurance business.

For more than 27 years, my Swissvale Borough neighbor, Leo McDonough has worked tirelessly on behalf of the small business movement. From the moment he assumed the helm of the Service, Manufacturing, and Commercial Business Councils, Leo McDonough compelled many Americans to value the role of the small business in our Nation.

Former Governor Robert P. Casey appointed Leo McDonough as a member of the Health Policy Board of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in April 1993. He also was in the forefront of organizing the Governor's Small Business Conferences in Pennsylvania and served on the Governor's Small Business Advisory Council.

He achieved many other goals and received awards for service to business too numerous to mention. I join many from western Pennsylvania in wishing him the rewards of an enjoyable retirement. Thank you, Leo, for your steadfast work.

#### ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 30, 1996*

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to insert into the

RECORD the following statement by Meika Ferland.

Ms. Ferland is a student from Barton, VT, and her script was the 1996 Vermont State winner in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy broadcast scripwriting contest.

#### ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL

(By Meika Ferland)

George Washington. Bob Hope. Betsy Ross. What do these Americans have in common? Each answered America's call in his or her own way. George Washington was the first commander-in-chief of troops as well as America's first President. Bob Hope entertained soldiers during several wars. And Betsy Ross sewed the famous red, white, and blue flag that would come to represent the best nation in the world. Each of these patriots made a memorable contribution to America's history.

Although we remember these important people and the roles they played in helping our country become great and strong, thousands of others have helped in their own small ways. The boys who beat the drums to maintain the soldier's pace. The women who made bandages and nursed the wounded. The crowds that gave a hero's welcome during a parade to honor returning troops—each of these is answering America's call by contributing to the morale and the needs of the time.

Today's citizens can also answer America's call. A young man can register with the Selective Service and be ready to fight if called upon during a national emergency. A young woman can volunteer to serve a meal at the local soup kitchen. A senior citizen can swing a hammer on a crew building a house in the Habitat for Humanity project. Each of these activities can make a difference and every person can make a contribution. The contribution does not have to make a huge impression like finding a cure for cancer or signing a peace treaty with a foreign nation. Each of us can answer the call in our own way no matter how humble. It is important to remember that every effort no matter how small makes a difference. I have learned this myself first hand.

At my local high school I am a volunteer in the Big Brother/Big Sister program. In this program a high school student is paired with an elementary student from one of the graded schools. These children are usually needy kids who lack someone special in their lives. As a volunteer I spend part of an afternoon each week trying to be a positive role model who provides attention and security in an otherwise troubled life.

Sometimes I help my little sister with her homework or we play games on the computer. She especially likes it when I read to her. Whatever we do, I can see a twinkle in my little sister's eye. I know she is thrilled while I am there. Her smile never leaves her face and when it's time to say good-bye, I know she is looking forward to next week wondering if I'll bring her a package of M & M's or a new book to read.

My little sister is not the only one who benefits from our friendship. It warms my heart to know that I can have such an impact on a ten-year-old. I am contributing a little bit to society by being a Big Sister but I am also reaping the rewards of doing something good for someone else.

In my own way I'm answering America's call. It is a minute contribution in relation to the whole country but it is my part, my effort. I believe that each of us has something worthwhile to contribute and it is up to each of us to do so. If every American were to do just a little bit toward answering America's call the United States would be an even greater place than it is today.